

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF YORK
YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA

Resolution

At a regular meeting of the York County Board of Supervisors held in the Board Room, York County Finance Building, Yorktown, Virginia, on the ____ day of ____, 2000:

Present

Vote

Walter C. Zaremba, Chairman
James S. Burgett, Vice Chairman
Sheila S. Noll
Donald E. Wiggins
Melanie L. Rapp

On motion of _____, which carried ____, the following resolution was adopted:

A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND AND CONGRATULATE MADISON
MCDANIEL ON HIS SELECTION AS THE 2000 YORK COUNTY
OUTSTANDING YOUTH OF THE YEAR FOR COURAGE

WHEREAS, the York County Youth Commission and the Board of Supervisors established the Outstanding Youth of the Year Awards Program to recognize the accomplishments and achievements of York County's youth; and

WHEREAS, Madison McDaniel received what is believed to be an unprecedented *three* nominations and has been chosen by the Selection Committee to receive the 2000 Outstanding Youth of the Year Award for Courage; and

WHEREAS, Madison McDaniel exemplifies the meaning of the word courage, having undergone three abdominal surgeries as a sixth grader before being diagnosed with a rare form of cancer; and

WHEREAS, during the past three years this cancer spread to his brain and metastasized, requiring three craniotomies to remove two brain tumors; and

WHEREAS, these surgeries have impaired Madison in various ways, causing him to face numerous obstacles in both his personal life and school experience; and

WHEREAS, completing his schoolwork is a major task as he experiences diffi-

culty with memory, motor skills, movement of the right side of his body, and loss of vision in the right halves of both eyes; and

WHEREAS, he continues to undergo extensive speech, occupational, and physical therapy sessions, as well as an exhaustive battery of medical tests every two to three months; and

WHEREAS, Madison routinely meets these challenges with determination and optimism, even though he must work much harder than others to attain success; and

WHEREAS, Madison awakens early each day to begin the strenuous routines and therapy required for him to accomplish his admirable goals; and

WHEREAS, because of his desire to remain in the honors program he diligently keeps up with his academic responsibilities, receiving homebound instruction and then gradually adding classes at Tabb High School; and

WHEREAS, he daily exhibits the courage of learning to be patient with himself, rising above the frustration of sometimes not being able to verbalize an answer as quickly as he would like; and

WHEREAS, it takes courage for a young man who is naturally right-handed to start all over learning to write with his left hand in order to complete his schoolwork; and

WHEREAS, it takes fortitude for a former all-star baseball player to be forced to give up the sport he loves and so excelled at and to learn to accept a change in his gait; and

WHEREAS, it takes resourcefulness for an accomplished young saxophonist to continue in the band by playing percussion instruments in order to use only one hand; and

WHEREAS, it takes great commitment, perseverance, and determination for Madison to maintain his outstanding 4.0 grade point average; and

WHEREAS, this young man pursues his goals and daily routine undaunted by the challenges he faces, seldom complaining about anything; and

WHEREAS, Madison possesses a cheerful disposition, a wonderful sense of humor, the ability to laugh at his mistakes, and a genuine interest in everyone and everything; and

WHEREAS, Madison is very well liked and accepted as just “one of the guys” by his peers at Tabb High, causing one teacher to remark, “In school he’s just Madison, the

smart kid who's fun to be around;" and

WHEREAS, Madison's influence has reached beyond his teachers and classmates to the entire community, as he was chosen to light the Dare Community Christmas Tree this past December after several residents heartily recommended his selection for this honor; and

WHEREAS, he has also been a tremendous inspiration to those families and friends attending Providence United Methodist Church, where he recently advised his pastor that he would encourage anyone facing cancer "to never give up;" and

WHEREAS, this amazing 14-year old is a shining example of his own advice, displaying an indomitable spirit throughout his courageous fight with cancer, refusing to allow the pain, fear, difficulties or impairments to crush his spirit or cause him to sink into paralyzing despair and self-pity; and

WHEREAS, on top of all his noted achievements at school and in our community, his greatest admirers and supporters are his beloved parents and older brother; and

WHEREAS, his highest accolade comes from his own dad who sums up the feelings of all those privileged to know or learn about this remarkable young man by declaring, "Madison is my hero;"

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the York County Board of Supervisors this ____day of _____, 2000, that Madison McDaniel be, and he is hereby, congratulated and commended by the York County Board of Supervisors as York County's 2000 Outstanding Youth of the Year for Courage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Madison McDaniel be publicly recognized as a most worthy recipient of the Outstanding Youth Award for Courage, that he be extended the sincere admiration and appreciation of the Board of Supervisors for his tremendous inspiration and example to us all, and that the Board's prayers and best wishes go with him and his family for a most rewarding and blessed life, and a future filled with continued triumph.